



Docket No. 826.1431/JIM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

Hiroshi HARUKI, et al.

Serial No.: 08/971,903

Filed: November 17, 1997

Group Art Unit: 2102 Technology Center 2100

Examiner: J. MYHRE

For: COMPUTER-RELATED PRODUCT USER MANAGEMENT AND SERVICE SYSTEM

**SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This supplemental Amendment supplements the Amendment dated February 19, 2002, and improves the form of the claims.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. No new matter has been added.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please REPLACE claims 14 and 15 as follows:

- Sub 4
14. (SEVEN TIMES AMENDED) A vendor terminal apparatus comprising:
- a user information reference means for obtaining, from an external unit, user registration information including a requested information type and using status information including a product used by the user transmitted from a user of a computer-related product; and
- a product information notification means for notifying an external unit of new information about the computer-related product, if the new information about the computer-related product corresponds to the requested information type, the new information including additional products available from a plurality of vendors that can be used with the product used by the user, and said requested information type further signifies a difference in vendor of said products that can be used in combination with products that are used by the user, in terms of
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